

JULY

Magic Lantern Society

NEWS 2024



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and
roll-over effects

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for a look at past California



The Magic Lantern Calendar –July 2024

Events

July 5 & 17, 2024, **Vulnavia's Last Dance: Mark Ferelli's Magic Lantern Show**, a new performance of ethereal projections and sound, The Horse Hospital, Colonnade, London, WCN 1JD, UK.

July 13 & 14, 2024, **The Art of the Magic Lantern**, exhibit and performances featuring Terry Borton, Joel Schlemowitz, Melissa Ferrari, Larry Rakow, Matt Schnittker, and Maisie O'Brien, Lyceum of History and Natural Sciences, 307 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ 08060.

Aug. 3, 2024, **Lantern! Magic! ACTION! Magic Lantern Curios**, presented by iDOLRiCH Theatre Rotto Productions, White Rock Studio, White Rock, Hastings TN34 1JX, UK.

Aug. 8 & 15, 2024, **Family Magic Lantern Show**, magic lantern slides from the Randall-Salter collection, Friends of the Cromer Museum, Community Hall, Garden Street, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9HB, UK.

Aug. 27, 2024, **BOEM! Or Experimental media archaeological reflections on re-enactment and 'crazy' avant-garde performances as part of media history**, lecture by Annie van den Oever, Antwerp Summer School Arts & Media Archaeology, University of Antwerp, Belgium.

Sept. 19-21, 2024, **20 th Magic Lantern Convention: Bringing the Magic to Movieland**, Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA <https://www.magiclanternsociety.org/2024-convention/>

Oct. 27, 2024, **The Magic Lantern**, The Prince Albert, Rodborough Hill, Stroud, England, GL5, UK.

Dec. 15, 2024, **A Family Edwardian Christmas at Lauriston Castle**, includes a traditional magic lantern show, Lauriston Castle, 2a Cramond Road South, Edinburgh, Scotland EH4 5QD UK

Dec. 15, 2024, **Magic Lantern Show**, a glimpse of 19 th -century Venice through original slides of the period, enhancing a little-known but historically and aesthetically valuable photographic heritage, brought to life by Laura Minici Zotti, founder of the museum. Museo del Precinema, Prato della Valle1/A, Padova, Italy.

continued next page

The Magic Lantern Calendar –July 2024

Exhibits

July 11 – Sept 28, 2024, **The Art of the Magic Lantern**, Burlington County Workers House gallery, Historic Smithville Park, 803 Smithville Rd, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060.

Jul 13-14, 2024, **"The Art of The Magic Lantern"** exhibit, Eastampton New Jersey. This event will have Terry Borton, Matt Schnittker, Melissa Ferrari, Joel Schlemowitz, Larry Rakow, and others!

Through Aug. 10, 2024, Magic Lanterns, an immersive exhibit containing luminous prints and projections of astronomical and astrological imagery sources from 1860s magic lantern slides, University of Mississippi Museum, University Ave and 5 th Street, Oxford, MS 38655

Through Oct. 31, 2024, **Exhibition: Collection, tell us a story**, stories through time, dimensions and space, in the world of the magic lantern, Musee de la Loire, Place de la Resistance, 58200 Cosne-Cours- Sur-Loire, France

Through Nov. 10, **Lanternists and Typographers: What if Women Ruled the World**, Bouchra Khalili's exhibit reactivates the art of the phantasmagoria, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Kallirrois Ave & Amvr. Frantzi Street, Athens, 11743, Greece.

Through Dec. 29. 2025, **Im Zauber des Lichts – Bildrewelten der Laterna Magica: Magic Lantern and Toy Lantern Slide exhibition**, Freilichtmuseum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 6126 Neu-Anspach/Taunus, Germany.

Online

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Wednesday on Zoom.

Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

Media History Digital Library, <https://mediahistoryproject.org/collections/magic-lantern/> Magic lantern ephemera.

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.



Registration now Open

2024 Convention September 19-21, Long Beach, California

Registration form and information for hotel reservations are now available for our 20 th International Convention this fall.

Register now and make your reservations for the Queen Mary before August 20 – after that date our reduced room rates and reservation room block will end and rooms may not be available. September is a busy time in Long Beach so register and make your room reservations now to join us.

Registration forms were emailed out on June 19 th and are also available on our website at <https://www.magiclanternsociety.org/2024-convention>, or email Ron at secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org

Registration includes:

- ☐ Workshops: Possible small group, topics TBD, afternoon on Thursday, September 19, to be announced.
- ☐ Welcome Reception (cash bar): Thursday, September 19, late afternoon/early evening.
- ☐ Presentations, concise business meeting, and we're planning for a return of the auction: Friday and Saturday, September 20 -21.
- ☐ Possible evening show Thursday or Friday, to be announced. If off-site, transportation will be provided.
- ☐ Sales Tables open Friday and Saturday.
- ☐ Lunch included Friday and Saturday.
- ☐ Dinner included one evening, date to be announced.
- ☐ Note that Registrations made after August 20, 2024 will not include meals due to our contractual agreement with the Queen Mary

We hope to see you live and in person in September



Coffee Table Books Illustrated with Lantern Images

Help Wanted!

By Terry Borton

Do you have coffee table books illustrated with lantern images? If so, I'd like your help.

I'm preparing the publishing proposal for my new book, *Magic Lantern Art: Joseph Boggs Beale, First Great Narrative Artist of the American Screen*. I hope it will be in a coffee table format. Publishing proposals usually include a section on similar books to the one being proposed. I had a number of similar books, but they all went to the Lucas Museum with our large collection of Beale and other magic lantern material, and, unfortunately, I did not keep detailed information on them. So I'm looking for help from anyone who might own such a book.

If you'd be willing to share your title(s), here's the format that the information should be in:

Lipton, Lenny. 2021. *The Cinema in Flux: The Evolution of Motion Picture Technology from the Magic Lantern to the Digital Era*. New York: Springer Co.

If you could add a sentence describing the contents, that would be very helpful.

The more books, the merrier.

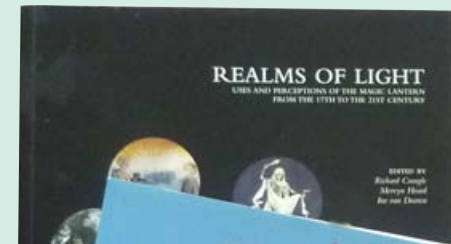
If you'd like to read a draft of *Magic Lantern Art*, and comment on it, please let me know at tborton@magiclanternart.com.

Thanks very much!

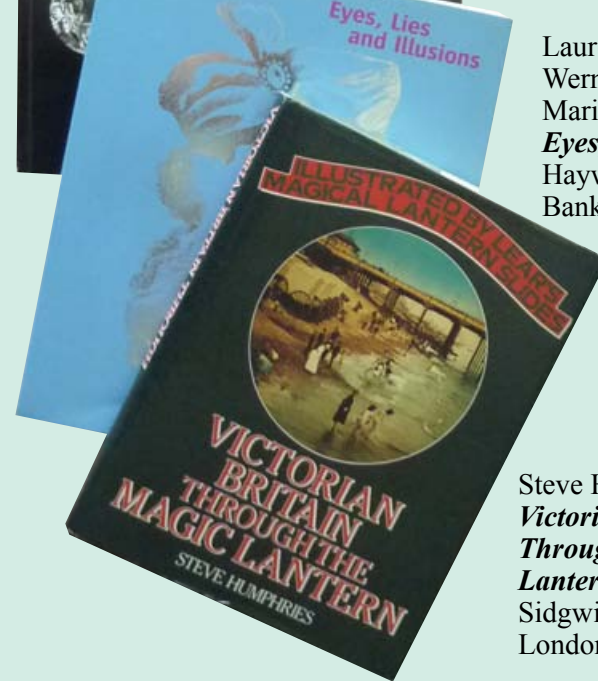
Terry

From Larry Cederblom

Some Examples I Have



Edited by:
Richard Crangle,
Mervyn Heard,
& Ine van Dooren 2005
Realms of Light
The Magic Lantern
Society



Laurent Mannon,
Werner Nekes &
Marina Warner 2004
Eyes, Lies and Illusion
Hayward Gallery South
Bank Central London

Steve Humphries 1989
*Victorian Britain
Through the Magic
Lantern*
Sidgwick & Jackson
London

Magic Lantern in the Yukon

From Ron Easterday

We were surprised to see this reference in a little museum in Whitehorse, YK.

The Old Log Church, Whitehorse, Yukon, CA was built in 1900 by hand by the Reverend Richard Bowen, the first church in the territory. Now a museum, we were surprised to see a magic lantern on display with this description “In order to raise funds for northern missions, Isaac (Bishop Isaac Stringer, missionary in Canada’s western Arctic beginning in 1892) held lectures in cities in Eastern Canada, the United States and England. He often used a Magic

Lantern projector with glass slides that depicted the beauty of the north and the lives of its people”. His wife Sadie Stringer traveled with him participating with her own “fund-raising speeches.” Unfortunately the docent at the museum did not have any more information regarding the magic lantern fund-raisers. Bishop Stringer became known as the Bishop Who Ate His Boots after



becoming lost while traveling by foot 500 miles to Dawson, Yukon in 1909: “Thursday, October 21. Breakfast of sealskin boot, soles and tops boiled and toasted, Soles better than uppers.” Guess those northern missionaries were tough folks.



Nine Children's Slides

Offered for cost of shipping from Minnesota

Hello Ron,

Thank you for your prompt reply! I don't have much history on these slides/plates - I didn't even know what they were without an internet search. They just looked too good to throw away or donate to a thrift store. I have no idea why my mom had them - I am in my late 60's and I do not remember her ever having a magic lantern or ever even seeing these plates. Nor do my older siblings.

They seem to be in pretty good condition - although dirty/dusty. I didn't want to use a cleaner on them so I simply wiped them with a micro-dust rag. There are just these nine of them.

I hope these pictures are good enough. Each slide has a number on it (Taf XI for example) and I can let you know those numbers if it is important, although I think you can read those numbers on most of the pictures. Also, if you need better pictures - I can do as



you mentioned and tape them to a window to get better picture - I just didn't want to put any tape on them as the red 'framing' is pretty fragile.

Also, some of the pictures look like they have a shadow - but it's really not there. You probably know this already, but it seems that it is the 'base layer' which repeats the original picture - and when put on the white paper it creates a 'shadow'.

I'm happy to give them to whomever would appreciate them - no charge other than reimbursement for shipping.

Thank you for allowing me to put something out there - in your newsletter or via your word of mouth - so these slides can find a good home.

Barb Herzog

barb@islandsteeldrums.com

Modeling Our Universe

From David Coffeen

Hello,

A prolate spheroid earth, models of lunar craters, the first Mars globe to show Schiaparelli's "canali", a pair of French armillary globes, an extraordinary astronomical magic lantern set, Jambon's grand orrery, Henri Robert's retrograde planet motion demonstrator, an astronomical candle-lantern, a first edition of the first star atlas published in the West.

These are a few of the dozens of antique astronomical models presented in our new Tesseract summer catalogue, issue 115.

Also included are miniature globes coming from three continents, Monseigneur Rougerie's hydrodynamic marine globe, a grand model eclipsareon, a



30. EXTRA-ORDINARY ASTRONOMICAL LANTERN SLIDE OUTFIT, probably English, mid-19th century. Contained in the 14" x 7-1/2" x 5" (36 x 19 x 13 cm) fitted mahogany case is a set of nine 3-7/8" (10 cm) diameter brass disks. Each disk is fitted with a hand-painted image on glass, and mounted with a second, rotating, brass holder fitted with its own painted glass pane. In some cells partial or total eclipses progress during rotation, in one the moon drives planets or satellites move in their orbits.

A hinged mahogany and brass holder accommodates each disk in turn, for use in a magic lantern. A (replaced) hand crank drives the rotation via internal ring and worm gearing. There are in addition twelve long mahogany-framed static slides, the glass panels hand-painted with several dozen astronomical scenes. Eight of the slides are each mounted with three finely painted glass disks within lacquered brass frames. This most remarkable outfit is in very fine condition, noting an empty slot for, presumably, a second slide carrier. \$8500.

playbill for the Enthronization of the New Planet (Neptune), a Chinese astronomical mirror, Ouyvière's Cosmographe, and Wessman's superb American mechanical globe.



FOCUS ON THE SUN — A SET OF ASTRONOMICAL LANTERN SLIDES, circa 1875, signed on the worn box lid "Newton 3 Fleet St." Each of the 12" (10 x 17 cm) mahogany frames holds a glass image, most 3-1/4" in diameter, and one sliding glass, and one subject are spectra, eclipses, dimensions, labeled in ink. Condition excellent. \$1350.



continued next page

Modeling Our Universe continued

Prices range from \$325 to \$85,000, and everything is fully illustrated, described, and priced.

The printed catalogue can be ordered from us (\$10, or \$35 for subscription of four issues), or it can be downloaded for free at <https://www.etesseract.com/C115.pdf>

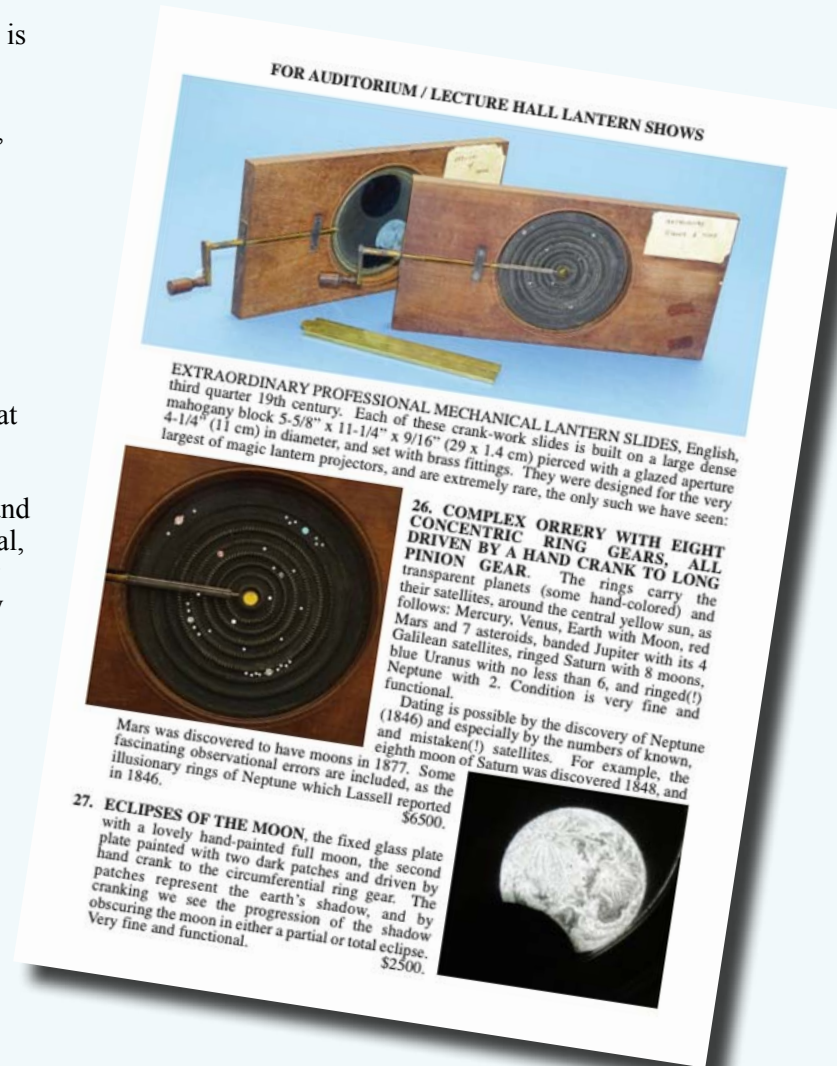
Dozens of other items are listed on our website <https://www.etesseract.com/>

And our book list, offering many new reference materials as well as antiquarian items, is available at <https://www.etesseract.com/Books.pdf>

Finally, we mention that David recently sat down and wrote an actual article, this on a remarkable survival, a 1518 Renaissance quadrant by Oronce Fine, only the third surviving instrument by this extraordinary polymath. It can be downloaded at <https://www.etesseract.com/BSS1518.pdf>
Thank you for your interest,

David & Yola Coffeen, Ph.D.s
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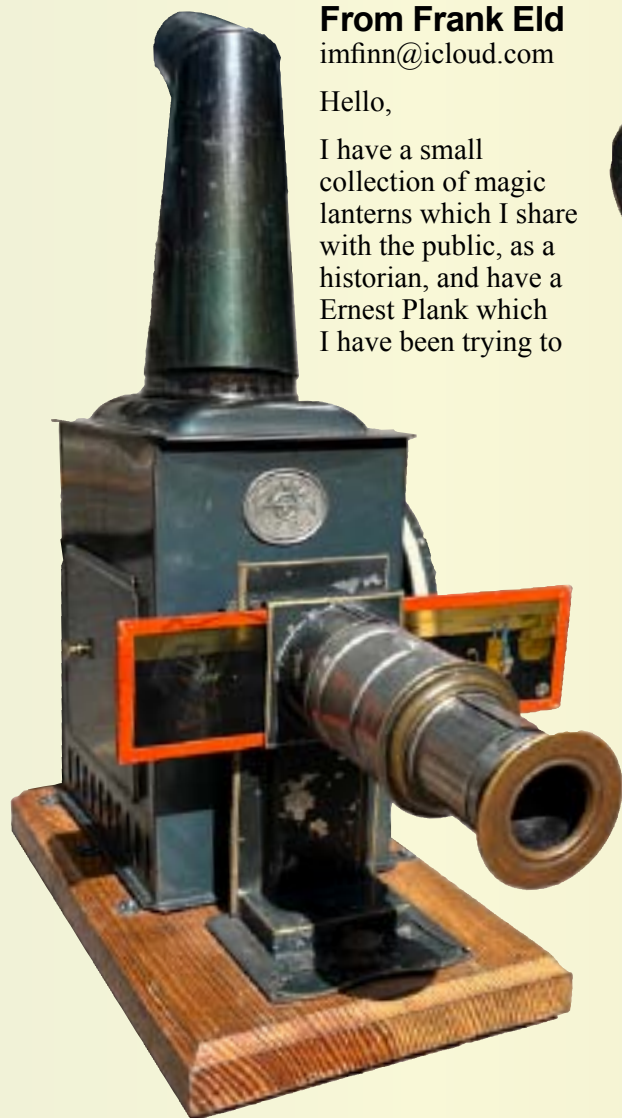
Ernest Plank Magic Lantern

From Frank Eld

imfinn@icloud.com

Hello,

I have a small collection of magic lanterns which I share with the public, as a historian, and have a Ernest Plank which I have been trying to



show but realized from your web that the front lens is missing so it will not focus.

Does your organization have any contacts for parts?

I would also like to join your organization if possible.

Respectfully,

Frank Eld
Boise, Idaho

Hello David,

Thank you for replying to my e-mail. I have enclosed some pictures of my lantern in hopes that someone might have a front lens. I can only assume that is the reason that it will not project a clear larger image on the screen.

Thanks again,

From David Evans

Hello Frank

Some of our members do have parts available for restorers. If you could let me have a picture showing your lantern and its front, we can add it to our next e-publication (June) and hope that someone has what you need.

I think there is information about how to join on the web site.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

Hello Frank

Thank you for the pictures of your lantern. It appears that you are missing a lens from the front. I have a very similar Ernest Plank lantern to yours - mine is labelled Prophet on its brass plate. It dates, I think, from a few years before 1900. Its projection lens looks very similar to yours, with a lens at each end of the focusing section. I am attaching pictures so that you can see what I mean. Let us hope one of our members who has spares may be able to help you resurrect your lantern.

Regards

David

Magic Lantern Kaleidoscope

From Jim Vendeland

jlrv6@att.net

Hello David,

I will send you 2 e-mails with images of the instrument. I am planning to have it restored in the near future.

Also have images of large colored glass shards inserted into object chamber.

Jim

INFORMATION

Wanted

From David Evans

Hello Jim

It looks amazing! Thank you for the pictures. I've never seen anything like it. Maybe one of our members has, in which case it will be most interesting to learn about it.

Regards

David





Magic Lantern Show in Italy

From Museo del PRECINEMA - Collezione Minici Zotti
info@miniczotti.it

Dear Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, on

December 15, 2024, at 6:00 PM,

we are planning a Magic Lantern show, organized by our Museum, in the prestigious Rossini Hall of the historic Caffè Pedrocchi in Padova.

The show aims to offer the public a glimpse of 19th-century Venice through original slides of the period, enhancing a little-known but historically and aesthetically valuable photographic heritage. The event also aims to raise awareness of the enchantment of an ancient instrument that was the predecessor of the film projector, brought to life with expertise and passion directly by the skilled hands of Laura Minici Zotti, founder of the Precinema Museum, scholar and lanternist

The period considered spans the last decades of the 19th century and the early years of the 20th century. Laura Minici Zotti has devoted special attention to collecting images of Venice that document the changes in the city over the years. The intent is also to offer visitors a chance to admire a Venice that has now disappeared, provoking not only fascination for the place but also reflections on the transformations caused by the exponential increase in tourism.

After a brief introduction, a program consisting of around 100 slides will follow.

Please spread the event through your channels.

Museo del PRECINEMA
Collezione Minici Zotti
miniczotti.it Facebook Instagram
Prato della Valle 1/A, Padova
tel. +39 049 8763838



<https://www.miniczotti.it/en/homepage-2/>



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Mr. A. R. DRESSER, Bexley Heath, highly recommends it. See his article on the best way to view lantern slides, in "Amibony's Bulletin of Photography," 1890.

Surgeon-Gen. RANKING, Leamington, another authority, says: "I am very much pleased with Lanternscope. It gives the slides an amount of relief approaching stereoscopic."

Advertising space is too costly an article to give more opinions as to its wonderful utility.

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A Big Thank You to the following:

Terry Borton
David Coffeen
Ron Easterday
David Evans
Frank Eld
Barb Herzog
Brian Rogers
Jim Vendeland
Minici Zotti

**for contributing
to this months issue.**